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LETTER DATED 21 NOVEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Today, 21 November 1994, the so-called Krajina Serbs, operating from within the United Nations Protected Area (UNPA) zones in the Republic of Croatia, have continued and intensified their offensive against the Bihać pocket safe area. Over 10,000 shells of all calibres have been fired into the Bihać pocket safe area from rebel Serb positions within the UNPA zones within the Republic of Croatia.

As a result of these attacks from the direction of Licko Petrovo Selo (UNPA-Republic of Croatia)/Zivalj (Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina), and Licko Petrovo Selo (UNPA-Republic of Croatia)/Izacic (Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina), the so-called Krajina Serbs have destroyed and occupied within the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina the villages of Veliki Skocaj, Mali Skocaj and Medjudrazje and the village of Zavalje, which is 1.5 km from Bihać town.

We ask the Security Council to seriously consider whether the focus over the last couple of days on air attacks by the so-called Krajina Serbs and the debate regarding whether the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) could respond, under then applicable resolutions, within the UNPA zones of the Republic of Croatia has, in fact, deflected attention away from the much more dangerous and destructive cross-border attacks by so-called Krajina Serb artillery, tanks and infantry. While the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina very much appreciates the latest NATO action, we must point out the greater urgency and danger to civilians, the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and sovereignty resulting from artillery that is relentlessly fired across the border and from tanks and infantry that have already invaded our Republic, and continue to violate not only the safe area but also our territorial integrity. If the latest United Nations and NATO action is to be perceived as credible and effective in really confronting these multiple violations of international law and order by the so-called Krajina Serbs, then these Krajina Serb forces in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina must be the first to be confronted.

May I ask you for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative